Molecular Biologist

**Job Description:** Molecular Biologists study how genes in cells cause biological characteristics and functions in organisms.

**What does a Molecular Biologist do?**

* Study the detailed genetic make-up of plants, animals, humans, bacteria, and fungi.
* Study DNA for medical testing for disease-causing organisms and to test for inherited genetic disorders.
* Manipulate genes to breed new crop plants or livestock.
* Aid in the development of new medicines.
* Use DNA fingerprinting to provide law enforcement with evidence to help solve crimes.
* Perform lab procedures including DNA sequencing, cloning and extraction, RNA purification, or gel electrophoresis.
* Instruct undergraduate or graduate students within the areas of cellular or molecular biology.

**Outlook: Bright**

Average Salary - $31.98 hourly, $66,510 annual

Projected Job Openings – 16,100 over the next 10 years

**Your Interests:**

* Do you like to look at things under a microscope?
* Do you like to help other people?
* Can you clearly communicate your ideas with others?
* Are you good at observing and then reporting what you see?

**Education/Program of Study:**

* Bachelor’s Degree in Biology, Microbiology, Biochemistry, or related field
* Master’s Degree is required for applied research and managerial positions
* Ph.D. is necessary for independent research